

AMENDMENT

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended). A method for controlling the microbial contamination of drinking water produced by condensation comprising:
providing a container of zeolite, wherein the zeolite contain ions; and
~~performing a step of~~ passing the ~~said~~ drinking water produced by condensation through
the ~~said~~ container of zeolite such that at least one ion is released.
2. (Currently Amended). The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the ~~said~~ zeolite is a clinoptilolite.
3. (Currently Amended). The method as set forth in claim 2, wherein the ~~said~~ method further comprises a step of sizing the ~~said~~ clinoptilolite to with the range of about 1 to about 10 mm.
4. (Currently Amended). The method as set forth in claim 3, wherein the ~~said~~ method further comprises a step of washing the ~~said~~ clinoptilolite with distilled water.
5. (Currently Amended). The method as set forth in claim 4, wherein the ~~said~~ method further comprises a step of adjusting the pH of the ~~said~~ clinoptilolite to within the range of about 6.0 to about 8.0.
6. (Currently Amended). The method as set forth in claim 5, wherein the ~~said~~ method further comprises a step of activating the ~~said~~ clinoptilolite by hydrothermal ion exchange.
7. (Currently Amended). The method as set forth in claim 6, wherein the ~~said~~ activation of the ~~said~~ clinoptilolite is by boiling in a solution containing zinc.

8. (Currently Amended). The method as set forth in claim 7, wherein the ~~said~~ solution containing zinc comprises a solution of water and zinc compound selected from the group consisting of zinc sulfate, zinc chloride, and zinc oxide.

9. (Currently Amended). The method as set forth in claim 8, wherein the ~~said~~ solution containing the zinc comprises water and $\text{ZnSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ~~$\text{ZnSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$~~ .

10. (Currently Amended). The method as forth in claim 9, wherein the concentration of the ~~said~~ solution of water and $\text{ZnSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ~~$\text{ZnSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$~~ is in the range of about 1 to about 10 percent by weight $\text{ZnSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ~~$\text{ZnSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$~~ .

11. (Currently Amended). The method as set forth in claim 10, wherein the ~~said~~ boiling in a solution of $\text{ZnSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ~~$\text{ZnSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$~~ is continued within the range of about 2 and about 15 hours.

~~1210~~. (Currently Amended). A composition for disinfecting water produced from condensation comprising a zeolite, wherein the zeolite contains at least one ion, and compound of zinc, wherein the compound of zinc is selected from the group consisting of zinc sulfate, zinc chloride, and zinc oxide.

~~1311~~. (Currently Amended). The composition of claim ~~1210~~ wherein the ~~said~~ zeolite is a natural clinoptilolite.

~~1412~~. (Canceled).

~~1513~~. (Currently Amended). The composition of claim ~~1311~~ wherein the ~~said~~ compound of zinc is ZnSO_4 ~~ZnSO_4~~ .

1614. (Currently Amended). The composition of claim 1311 wherein the ~~said~~ compound of zinc is a hydrated form of ZnSO₄·7H₂O~~ZnSO₄·7H₂O~~.

1715. (Currently Amended). A method of preparing a composition for controlling the microbial contamination of drinking water produced by condensation comprising boiling a zeolite having at least one ion in a solution containing zinc compound.

1816. (Currently Amended). The method of claim 1715 wherein the ~~said~~ zeolite is a clinoptilolite.

1917. (Currently Amended). The method of claim 1816 wherein the ~~said~~ boiling is for a time in the range of about 1 to about 10 hours.

2018. (Currently Amended). The method of claim 1816 wherein the ~~said~~ zinc compound is selected from the group consisting of zinc sulfate, zinc chloride, and zinc oxide.

2119. (Currently Amended). The method of claim 1816 wherein the ~~said~~ zinc compound is ZnSO₄·7H₂O~~ZnSO₄·7H₂O~~.

2220. (Currently Amended). The method of claim 1816 further comprising the step of sizing the ~~said~~ clinoptilolite to with the range of about 1 to about 10 mm.

2321. (Currently Amended). The method of claim 2220, wherein the ~~said~~ method further comprises a step of washing the ~~said~~ clinoptilolite with distilled water.

2422. (Currently Amended). The method of claim 2321, wherein the ~~said~~ method further comprises a step of adjusting the pH of the ~~said~~ clinoptilolite to within the range of about 6.0 to about 8.0.

2523. (Currently Amended). The method of claim 2422, wherein the ~~said~~ method further comprises a step of activating the ~~said~~ clinoptilolite by hydrothermal ion exchange.

2624. (Currently Amended). The method of claim 23, wherein the ~~said~~ activation by hydrothermal ion exchange of the ~~said~~ clinoptilolite is by boiling in a solution containing zinc.

2725. (Currently Amended). The method of claim 24, wherein the ~~said~~ solution containing zinc comprises a solution of water and a zinc compound selected from the group consisting of zinc sulfate, zinc chloride, and zinc oxide.

2826. (Currently Amended). The method of claim 25, wherein the ~~said~~ solution containing zinc comprises water and ZnSO₄.7H₂O~~ZnSO₄.7H₂O~~.

2927. (Currently Amended). The method of claim 26, wherein the concentration of the ~~said~~ water and ZnSO₄.7H₂O~~ZnSO₄.7H₂O~~ is in the range of about 1 and about 10 percent by weight ZnSO₄.7H₂O~~ZnSO₄.7H₂O~~.